PONTYPRIDD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1964

D. W. FOSTER, B.Sc., M.B. B.Ch. D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CENTRAL CLINIC
PONTYPRIDD
Telephone No. 3204/5

Public Health Department,
Ynysangharad Park,
Pontypridd.

June, 1966.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
of the Pontypridd Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health of the District for the year 1964, together with the following comments.

Clean Air:

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government suggested that in areas such as Pontypridd, where there is a good supply of low-volatile (i.e. relatively smokeless) house coal, it might be possible to come to an arrangement with the National Coal Board whereby only low-volatile coal would be used in the area.

On being approached the National Coal Board informed the Council that as 90% of coal at present supplied in Pontypridd was low-volatile, there should be no difficulty in arranging for all coal supplied to domestic consumers to be of this type. This was in fact put into effect so that since November, 1964, virtually no smokey coal has been sold in the area. This has given a small but worth while improvement in atmospheric conditions which were already very good when compared with most industrial towns.

The increasing use of more efficient means of burning solid fuel, such as the enclosed type of stove which has recently become popular, should also help to reduce atmospheric pollution, and there are other benefits to health in that the heat produced tends to warm the rest of the house by convection.

For far too long we have relied on open fires as the main form of heating and pleasant in some respects as they may be, they are both uneconomic and tend to produce a polluted atmosphere. In addition, the heat from open coal fires is largely in the form of radiation with little convection and so the area heated is limited. The traditional British bedroom is normally at a temperature only a few degrees above that of the atmosphere outside, and in winter is therefore extremely cold. There is a popular belief that a cold bedroom with an open window is somehow healthy, but in fact this is quite untrue. Many young babies and old people have undoubtedly died in the past due to effects of cold, and will continue to do so in the future until the dangers are fully recognised.

Fortunately, the British bedroom, like many other British institutions is changing. Central heating in various forms is becoming more popular, and one hopes that it will not be long before no new houses are built without it.

If all our homes were equipped with central heating, great health benefits would result, and chronic bronchitis - that awful disease which produces so much disability and death and is called "the English disease" by other countries - would be far less common.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963:

This Act, which came into force on the 1st May, 1964, is a welcome advance on previous legislation, and will safeguard the health and safety of those who work in shops and offices.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Members of the Council for their support and encouragement, the Officers of the other departments for their help and co-operation, and lastly the staff of the Health Department for their enthusiasm and loyalty.

D.W.Foster,

Medical Officer of Health.

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PONTYPRIDD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor J.Ll. Williams, J.P.

Health Committee, 1964 - 1965

Chairman: Councillor H. Gardner

Councillor J.C.Anzani	
Councillor J.R.Clayton	(Died December, 1964)
Councillor W.J.Cheesman	
Councillor R.Daniel	(From December, 1964)
Councillor H.G.A.Dark	
Councillor John Davies	
Councillor J.Howell Davies	(Retired June, 1964)
Councillor Sam Davies	
Councillor Mrs.A.Delemore	(From August, 1964)
Councillor Miss M.G.Edwards,J.P.	
Councillor Richard Evans	
Councillor H.Gardner	(Died September, 1964)
Councillor A.W.B.Higgins	(Retired May, 1964)
Councillor Mrs.D.Inson	
Councillor C.H.James	
Councillor W.B.Jones, B.A.	
Councillor Stanley Jones	
Councillor G. Paget	(From May, 1964)
Councillor E.W.Peck	(Retired May, 1964)
Councillor R.Price	
Councillor Norman Randell,J.P.	
Councillor D.J.Richards, B.E.M.	
Councillor N.A.Stevens	
Councillor S.Stone	
Councillor F.J.C.Warner	
Councillor J.Warren, B.A., M.Sc.	
Councillor A.Warkins	(From May, 1964)
Councillor A.R.Watkins	
Councillor E.D.Williams	
Councillor J.Ll.Williams	

Clerk of the Council:

Mr. Bernard M. Murphy, LL.B.

Public Health Department Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

D. W. Foster, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W. N. Davies

Public Health Inspectors:

R. O. Hughes
W. C. Griffiths

Clerical Staff:

M. Rees - Chief Clerk
Miss R.H. John
Miss L. Davies (To April, 1964)
Miss C. Guard (From May, 1964)

Caretaker - Public Abattoir:

R.J. Stroud

Van Driver and Disinfector:

A.H. Seymour

Pest Control Officer:

S.R. Redwood

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (mid-year 1963), estimated by Registrar General ...	35,160
Population (Census 1961)	35,494
Area (acres)	8,141
Number of inhabited houses, 1961	10,416
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1961)	10,923
Rateable Value (1st April, 1964)	£1,019,448
1d Rate product for 1963/64	£4,133.9.0d

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1964

LIVE BIRTHS:

Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
272	280	21	11	584

Rate per 1,000 population: 16.61 (adjusted 16.94)
Illegitimate live births: 5.4% of total live births

STILL BIRTHS:

Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
5	3	-	1	9

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 15.2

TOTAL BIRTHS: Number (live and still): 593

DEATHS: Males: 303 - Females: 214 - Total: 517 - Death rate: 14.70 (adjusted rate: 14.85)

Infant:

Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
13	7	2	1	23

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births: 39.38
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births: 36.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births: 0.09

Neo-Natal:

Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
10	5	1	1	17

Rate per 1,000 total live births: 29.1

Early Neo-Natal:

Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	
7	4	1	1	13

Rate per 1,000 total live births: 22.2

Perinatal:

Male	Female	Total
13	9	22

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 37.10

Maternal Mortality: Number of deaths: Nil

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE DISTRICT

DURING 1964 and PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population	Births		Net deaths belonging to the district			
				Under one year of age		At all ages	
		Number	Rate per 1,000 (crude)	Number	Rate per 1,000 births	Number	Rate per 1,000 population (crude)
1955	37,980	523	13.8	20	38.2	535	14.1
1956	37,700	537	14.2	10	18.6	466	12.4
1957	37,590	585	15.56	17	29.06	527	14.02
1958	37,550	579	15.42	14	24.18	472	12.57
1959	37,460	590	15.75	16	27.12	528	14.10
1960	37,240	561	15.06	22	39.22	515	13.83
1961	35,480	559	15.76	15	26.83	501	14.12
1962	35,480	573	16.15	16	27.92	514	14.49
1963	35,400	625	17.66	18	28.80	495	13.98
1964	35,160	584	16.61	23	39.38	517	14.70

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY) - VITAL STATISTICS, 1964

		Estimated Population 1964	BIRTHS			DEATHS			INFANT MORTALITY		PERI-NATAL MORTALITY	
			Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 population		Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population		Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Stillbirths and deaths under one week	Rate per 1,000 live and still-births
				Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted				
England and Wales		47,401,300										
Administrative County		755,480	13,468	17.83	18.19	9,084	12.02	13.82	359	26.66	458	33.39
Urban Districts		5[illegible],090	9,345	17.76	18.29	6,450	12.26	14.22	267	28.57	335	35.18
Rural Districts		229,390	4,123	17.97	18.15	2,634	11.48	12.86	92	22.31	123	29.33
Health Division	Constituent Districts											
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban	38,910	615	15.81	17.23	569	14.62	15.20	17	27.64	19	30.45
Mountain Ash	Mountain Ash Urban	29,510	534	18.10	18.10	343	11.62	14.06	9	16.85	18	32.91
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban	36,890	782	21.20	20.78	402	10.10	13.13	20	25.58	30	37.41
Gelligaer	Gelligaer Urban	35,000	676	19.31	19.31	398	11.37	14.78	23	34.02	27	39.36
Mid Glamorgan	Bridgend Urban	15.180	281	18.51	19.07	164	10.80	11.88	5	17.79	5	17.54
	Maesteg Urban	21,590	370	17.14	17.83	215	9.95	12.34	16	43.24	21	55.41
	Ogmore & Garw Urban	20,890	347	16.61	17.11	258	12.35	15.31	13	37.46	13	37.04
	Porthcawl Urban	11,880	240	20.20	23.23	153	12.88	10.82	5	20.83	7	28.69
	Penybont Rural	44,280	955	21.57	20.71	506	11.43	11.54	18	18.85	28	28.87
Neath and	Neath M.B.	30,520	507	16.61	17.27	439	14.38	15.39	17	33.53	19	36.82
District	Neath Rural	40,830	651	15.94	16.58	489	11.98	14.74	15	23.04	24	36.04
Pontypridd and	Llantrisant Rural	27,580	553	20.05	19.05	295	10.70	13.91	15	27.12	19	33.69
Llantrisant	Pontypridd Urban	35,160	584	16.61	16.94	517	14.70	14.85	23	39.38	22	37.10
Port Talbot and	Glyncorrwg Urban	9,470	215	22.70	22.02	84	8.87	13.48	8	37.21	15	66.96
Glyncorrwg	Port Talbot M.B.	51,750	987	19.07	18.88	523	10.11	13.95	25	25.33	31	30.91
South East	Barry M.B.	42,460	800	18.84	19.41	457	10.76	12.05	19	23.75	27	33.17
Glamorgan	Cardiff Rural	5[illegible],430	894	17.05	16.54	597	11.39	10.71	22	24.61	21	23.23
	Cowbridge M.B.	1,140	12	10.53	10.64	11	9.65	10.04	-	-	1	76.92
	Cowbridge Rural	20,430	370	18.11	19.38	167	8.17	13.48	8	21.62	13	34.30
	Penarth Urban	21,350	372	17.42	18.81	271	12.69	12.06	8	21.51	6	16.04
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	13,440	215	16.00	17.44	146	10.86	10.86	3	13.95	4	18.35
	Llwchwr Urban	25,260	406	16.07	17.19	301	11.92	13.11	10	24.63	17	40.87
	Pontardawe Rural	30,400	485	15.95	18.02	434	14.28	15.14	11	22.68	14	28.40
Rhondda M.B.		99,130	1,617	16.31	16.80	1,345	13.57	15.61	49	30.30	57	34.52

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(other than Tuberculosis) during 1964

Disease	Total cases notified	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	14	-
Pneumonia	1	23
Whooping Cough	14	-
Measles	345	-
Para. Typhoid	1	-

PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1939

There were no cases of Puerperal Pyrexia reported during the year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There have been no maternal deaths in the district since 1957. This gratifying result can be attributed to improved care of mothers before, during and after confinement, and reflects credit on the general practitioner, hospital and local authority services. Modern drugs to combat infection have, of course, played a great part in this improvement.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The ambulance service is the responsibility of the Glamorgan County Council, and the depot serving the Pontypridd area is situated at Hawthorn, near Pontypridd. The telephone number is Pontypridd 2522.

REPLACEMENT OF DESTROYED BEDDING

Authority is given to the local authority by Section 167, sub-section 4, of the Public Health Act, 1936, to replace bedding soiled and suspected of containing infection after infectious diseases.

No such replacement was made in 1964.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIED IN EACH WARD DURING THE YEAR 1964

Disease	Graig	Rhon-dda	Town	Cilfy-nydd	Tra-llwn	Trefo-rest	Rhydy-felin	Total
Whooping Cough	-	5	3	-	3	-	3	14
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	7	2	-	5	-	-	14
Measles	22	63	35	8	78	73	66	345
T.B.(Respiratory)	1	3	-	-	-	3	3	10
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	23	78	40	9	87	76	72	385

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

Notified during 1964

Disease	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	1	10
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	1	2	7	-	1	-	1	-	-	14
Whooping Cough	-	3	3	-	1	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	14
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Measles	8	35	43	78	78	97	6	-	-	-	-	-	345
Typhoid (Para)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	8	40	47	79	81	109	8	2	2	4	4	1	385

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The National scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis began in 1956 under the control of the respective County Medical Officers.

In my capacity as Divisional Medical Officer, I am able to supply the following figures shewing the progress in the Pontypridd area during 1964:-

	Number of persons who have received oral vaccine		
	1st	2nd	3rd
Children born in 1964	112	76	33
Children born in 1963	269	267	255
Children born in 1962	99	94	91
Children born in 1961	47	36	39
Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960	54	44	46
Persons born in years 1933-1942	8	6	5
Others	3	1	1
TOTAL	592	524	470

Number of persons given 1 oral after 3 salk injections 314

Number of persons given 1 oral after 3 oral doses 54

Number of persons given 1 oral after 2 oral and 2 salk doses .. 41

Number of persons given 2 oral after 2 salk injections 157

LABORATORY WORK AND FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, examines and reports upon all pathological specimens submitted from the Pontypridd area. The number of suspected and routine specimens sent by the Public Health Department and by local doctors during the past year was 111. These included throat and nose swabs, sputa, blood, pus, faeces, cerebro-spinal fluid, etc.

Outfits for the collection of specimens for transmission through the post are kept at the office of the Public Health Department for the use of medical practitioners of the town.

HOSPITAL PROVISION FOR CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Where hospital admission is deemed desirable, cases of infectious diseases are accepted at the Cardiff Isolation Hospital at Canton, Cardiff, and at the Tyntyla Hospital, Pentre, Rhondda. In practice, the more serious types of infectious diseases, such as poliomyelitis and cerebro-spinal meningitis are usually treated at Cardiff. Special facilities also exist at the hospital at Canton for the treatment of tubercular meningitis and miliary tuberculosis, both of which require skilled and prolonged nursing care and attention.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925

SECTION 62

and

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

SECTION 172

The Local Authority took no action under these sections during 1964.

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1964

	New Cases					Deaths				
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5 years	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45-65 years	3	3	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	1
Over 65 years	1	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	5	5	-	-	10	4	-	-	-	4

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Respiratory	0.11	0.06	0.22	0.22	0.03	0.08
Non-respiratory	Nil	Nil	0.07	Nil	Nil	0.05
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.11	0.06	0.29	0.22	0.03	0.13

TUBERCULOSIS, 1964

The following information has been kindly supplied by Doctor J.V.Williams in respect of Pontypridd and Rhondda areas which form the district under his control:-

In comparison with last year the figures shew an increase of 7.

	1963	1964
Respiratory	52	61
Non-respiratory	5	3

As in previous years the older age groups are particularly affected in both men and women.

381 contacts were examined, of which three were found definitely to have tuberculosis.

The dramatic reduction in the number of new cases of Tubercle since antibiotics became generally available is seen in the following figures:-

Year	No. of diagnosed cases of T.B.
1950	371
1951	321
1952	264
1953	300
1954	195
1955	286
1956	189
1957	143
1958	127
1959	132
1960	109
1961	127
1962	91
1963	57
1964	64

The main non-tuberculous conditions seen at the Chest Clinic, such as Bronchial Carcinoma, Bronchitis, Pneumonitis, Pneumoconiosis and Heart conditions, shew little variation.

Again it should be stressed that intensive propaganda regarding the dangers of smoking is needed, particularly in the final years of the children's school life.

VACCINATION WITH B.C.G.

The vaccination of contacts of Tuberculosis is the responsibility of the Chest Clinic. Vaccination of school leavers is carried out by the School Health Service, and the following table shews the work done in this field during the year :-

Number of parental consents requested	788
Number of accepted B.C.G.Vaccination	594
Number of Mantoux tested	529
* Number positive	157
Number negative	329
Number vaccinated	328

* Of this number, 58 shewed a positive result through previous vaccination.

These figures relate to children attending schools in the Pontypridd area only.

CANCER

Deaths from Cancer (all forms) in the Pontypridd area recorded during 1964 were as follows :-

Males	Females	Total
35	28	63

The above figures, constituting a death rate of 1.8 per 1,000 population shew a decrease of 12 on those of last year, when the total reached 75. The number of deaths from lung cancer in 1964 was 13, the same as in 1963; this type of cancer, which is almost entirely preventable, now kills many more people than tuberculosis.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There was again this year an epidemic of the so far unpreventable measles.

One case of Paratyphoid occurred, in an adult returning from holiday in the Mediterranean. With more and more people taking holidays in that part of the world, an "imported" case of enteric fever is becoming quite a common occurrence. Ideally, all travellers to this area should be immunised against this disease.

INFANT WELFARE

Infant Welfare Centres in Pontypridd are administered by the Glamorgan County Council.

The following Clinics hold weekly sessions:-

Pontypridd	Central Clinic, Park
Treforest	Saron Chapel Vestry
Rhydyfelin	Clinic, Ash Square
Hopkinstown	Hall, Foundry Road
Graig	St.John's Church Vestry

In addition, fortnightly sessions are held at:-

Pontshonnorton	Merthyr Road Clinic
Glyncoch	Glyncoch Church Vestry

INFANT DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1964

Date	Sex	Age	Cause
13.11.64	Male	4 hours	I. (a) Prematurity II. Antepartum haemorrhage
3.8.64	Female	1 day	I. (a) Prematurity (b) Atelectasis
16.7.64	Male	1 week	I. (a) Pneumonia (b) Prematurity II. Toxaemia of Pregnancy
20.6.64	Male	2 days	I. (a) Prematurity II. Birth Trauma with intracranial haemorrhage
29.5.64	Female	1 day	I. (a) Pulmonary distress syndrome (b) Prematurity
2.3.64	Female	17 hours	I. (a) Resp.Distress Syndrome (b) Prematurity
15.2.64	Male	1 hour	I. (a) Prematurity II. Pulmonary Insufficiency
8.2.64	Male	5 minutes	I. Atelectasis of Lung II. Prematurity
11.1.64	Female	4 months	I. (a) Pneumonia (probably of Viral origin) II. Prematurity
13.12.64	Male	6 months	I. (a) Staphylococcal Pneumonia
26.10.64	Male	1 month	I. (a) Cardiac arrest (b) Fulminating pneumonia
30.9.64	Female	20 hours	I. (a) Atelectasis of Lungs II. Prematurity
2.8.64	Male	2 weeks	I. (a) Bronchopneumonia II. Prematurity
31.3.64	Male	1 week	I. (a) Bronchopneumonia II. Prematurity

INFANT DEATHS (Cont'd)

Date	Sex	Age	Cause
29.11.64	Female	5 days	I. (a) Bronchopneumonia and Pneumothorax (b) Breakdown sutures after operation for tracheo-oesophageal fistula
11.9.64	Male	1 day	I. (a) Multiple Congenital Malformations: (1) oesphageo-tracheal fistula (2) malrotation of bowels (3) imperforated anus
18.8.64	Male	2 days	I. (a) Congestive Cardiac failure (b) Congenital heart disease
1.5.64	Male	1 month	I. (a) Hydrocephalus
21.1.64	Male	3 months	I. (a) Pneumonia (b) Fibrocystic disease of pancreas
22.10.64	Female	10 weeks	I. (a) Asphyxia (b) Regurgitation of stomach contents
1.9.64	Male	2 hours	I. (a) Cerebral haemorrhage II. Spina bifida Diaphragmatic hernia
13.4.64	Male	15 minutes	I. (a) Intracranial haemorrhage (b) Breach delivery
15.3.64	Female	2 weeks	I. (a) Asphyxia (b) Aspiration of vomit II. Cyanotic heart disease

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1964

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm			
Stomach	13	4	17
Lung	13	-	13
Breast	-	3	3
Uterus	-	3	3
Other sites	9	18	27
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	33	46	79
Coronary disease, angina	63	33	96
Hypertension with heart disease	8	-	8
Other heart diseases	32	42	74
Other circulatory diseases	10	12	22
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	13	10	23
Bronchitis	43	5	48
Other diseases of respiratory system	18	3	21
Diabetes	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	-	4
Congenital malformations	4	2	6
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	21	17	38
Motor vehicle accidents	5	-	5
Other accidents	2	5	7
Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
Suicide	1	3	4
	303	214	517

HOUSING

In the post war period 1,767 houses have been erected by the Council. During 1964, 222 houses have been completed and occupied; work is proceeding on the following dwellings:

Glyncoch	- 1 bedroom flats	12
	2 bedroom houses	98
	3 bedroom houses	72
Graig-yr-Helfa	- 1 bedroom flats	12
	2 bedroom houses	28
	3 bedroom houses	18
Morien Crescent	- 1 bedroom flats	16
	TOTAL	256

In addition private enterprise has accounted for the following new dwellings during the year:

Completed	65
Commenced	117
TOTAL	182

COUNCIL HOUSES

Particulars of the dwelling houses owned by the Pontypridd Urban District Council at the end of 1964 are set out as follows:

Consolidated Housing Scheme	2,373
Ynys Terrace	28
Gwernygerwn	11

Taken over by Council:

(a) Small Dwelling Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923 and Housing Acts, 1923-1925	23
(b) 19, 20 and 22 Stow Hill	3
(c) 16 Broadway	1
(d) Bridge Street/Morgan Street	4
(e) Rickard Street	1
TOTAL	2,444

SLUM CLEARANCE - REHOUSING

The acquisition of Nos. 1-23 Graig-yr-Helfa Road was completed and after the declaration of unfitness, the occupiers were rehoused during the year.

The Council also completed the rehousing of the occupiers of the properties in the 4th period slum clearance programme, comprising three small clearance areas and seven closing and demolition orders.

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

In March, 1964, the Council approved a revised 15-year list which deleted from the 1957 list those properties which had been improved and added others which had deteriorated since that time. The new list contains 310 properties.

Later in the year, a further programme of one clearance area and nine demolition and closing orders was approved by the Council.

RENT ACT, 1957

One application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair under the above Act, and was granted. Two applications were received and granted for cancellation of existing Certificates.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

At January, 1964, 16 distributors and 13 dairies (other than dairy farms) were listed in the authority's registers.

Under Regulation 8 of the above Regulations, a distributor is required to be registered only with the local authority in whose area the premises from which the milk is distributed are situated.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The following licences were granted for 1964:-

Dealer -	T.T.Milk	16
	Pasteurised	16
	Sterilised	14

These Regulations, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1960, provide that a dealer's licence authorises the sale of milk outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority. The issue of supplementary dealers' licences was therefore discontinued after 1960.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954

Under the above Order, Pontypridd is included in a Specified Area, wherein it is illegal to sell by retail for human consumption milk other than specially designated milk.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following is a summary of examinations carried out during the past year; all samples being submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff:

Graded Milk	Number of Samples	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised T.T.	4	-
Pasteurised	19	-

ICE-CREAM PREMISES

At 31st December, 1964, there were 214 registered ice-cream retailers in this town. Of these, probably only six manufacture their own ice-cream, the majority preferring to purchase the ice-cream, ready made, in hygienic containers, and maintaining it at the required temperature in refrigerators provided by the wholesaler. These premises are regularly inspected by the Food Inspectors.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954

Section 1 of the Act is applicable within the area to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs, and with the exception of Kosher meat, all cattle are humanely killed by the captive bolt pistol, and the smaller animals are stunned before slaughter.

11 licences under Section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954 were granted by the Council to operate for 1964.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The following are particulars for 1964 of the number of animals slaughtered and examined at the Abattoir:-

Cows	Heifers & Steers	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
503	1,942	295	14,746	5,437	22,923

The total number of visits paid to the Abattoir, Markets and Shops by the Public Health Inspectors for the purposes of inspection of meat and other foods was as follows:-

Visits and revisits made to the Public Abattoir by the Public Health Inspectors	804
Visits made to other premises under Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 and Food and Drugs Act, 1955	370
	1,174

Summary of unsound meat and other foods surrendered and destroyed during the year ended 31st December, 1964:-

	Tons	Cwts	qrs	lbs
Public Abattoir (Meat - Tuberculosis)		1	3	15
Public Abattoir (Meat - other diseases)	10	5	-	5
Meat - other than Abattoir		5	1	21
Public Markets and Shops (Other foods)	4	15	2	13½
	15	7	3	26½

CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Food to the effect that Local Authorities should control the disposal of condemned meat and offal from their Abattoirs, the Council has assumed this responsibility. Periodically, approved contractors are invited to quote for the purchase of these materials and the Council accepts the most favourable offer, consistent with facilities to collect on agreed days. All proceeds are refunded to the owners of the animals concerned.

The following tables shew the percentage figures for the year ended 31st December, 1964 of those carcases affected with:

(1) Tuberculosis
(2) Diseases other than Tuberculosis
(3) Cysticercus Bovis

Number inspected:-

Cows	Heifers & Steers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
503	1,942	295	14,746	5,437	22,923

(1) Tuberculosis:

	Pigs
Carcases	-
Parts	22
Percentage	0.4%

(2) All diseases other than Tuberculosis:

	Calves	Beasts	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Carcases	1	4	27	2
Parts	-	207	1,191	483
Percentage	0.4%	8.6%	8.2%	8.9%

(3) Cysticercus Bovis:

- N I L -

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Pontypridd Council administers the above Act in this area and the Authority's Public Health Inspectors are appointed sampling officers. Mr.D.Evans.Jones, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., of the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, was the Public Analyst appointed to act for this district for the period under review.

In the course of the past year, the wide range of samples (formal and informal) detailed overleaf were submitted to and reported upon by the Analyst:-

Sample	Genuine	Non-genuine
Cake Mix	3	
Drugs	23	
Gelatine	1	
Canned Beef (assorted)	17	
Chicken Capri		1
Beef Sausages	9	2
Veal Sorrento	1	
Milk	69	5
Peanut Butter	1	
Tea	1	
Apples	3	
Beau Burgers	1	
Corned Beef Hash	2	
Rice with dehydrated chicken and prawns	1	
Rice with dehydrated prawn curry	1	
Butter	3	
Flour, plain	1	
Jam	4	
Lard	2	
Chicken with Vegetables and gravy	3	
Luncheon Meat	1	
Pastie	1	
Chicken, minced in jelly	3	
Ham, chopped with Pork	1	
Irish Stew	1	
Lamb Chops with Vegetables and gravy	1	
Pork, canned	3	
Baking powder	1	
Beef suet, shredded	1	
Beer	9	
Crab, canned	2	
Custard Powder	1	
Spirits	5	1
Fish cakes	1	
Fish paste	3	
Flour, self-raising	2	
Margarine	2	
Chicken Fillets with Jelly	1	
Pears	1	
Soft drinks	3	
Table jelly	3	
Vinegar, malt	1	
	193	9

The average composition of milk samples for 1964 was 3.57% milk fat and 8.78% solids non-fat, compared with the standard laid down in the milk regulations of 3% milk fat and 8.5% solids non-fat.

Following are the details of the sub-standard foods:-

16P	Informal	- Chicken Capri	-	Contained 20% meat
37P	Informal	- Milk	-	8% deficient in fat
41P	Informal	- Milk	-	10% deficient in fat
44P	Informal	- Milk	-	6% deficient in fat
46P	Informal	- Milk	-	3% deficient in fat
50P	Informal	- Milk	-	6% deficient in fat
P129	Formal	- Beef sausage	-	Contained 42.8% meat
P158	Formal	- Beef sausage	-	Contained 39.5% meat
P201	Formal	- Whisky	-	Contained 63.3% proof spirit

In respect of the deficiencies, the following observations are made :-

16P As there was no standard for chicken capri, no action was taken.

37P, 44P, 46P, 50P In each of these cases the average fat content of the morning and evening milks was satisfactory.

41P A follow-up sample was satisfactory.

P129, P158, P201 In these three cases, the vendors were warned.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Consignments of food which have been condemned by the Public Health Inspectors as being unfit for human consumption are surrendered, stained, and dispatched to the Council's controlled tip. The Authority is fortunate in having available a plentiful and regular supply of flue dust, and the food with all other refuse is more than adequately covered. The tip is regularly inspected and during the warmer weather it is regularly sprayed with insecticide to minimise fly nuisance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board provides an ample and constant service of pure water to all houses and premises with the exception of a few scattered cottages and farmhouses on the borders of the Urban area.

All the water is treated by modern methods of chlorination and filtration, and it is possible to maintain, in all parts of the district, a reasonable supply even during periods of drought.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations of the water are carried out at all stages of its collection, treatment and distribution. These examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, and they are in the main submitted by the Board. "Spot" samples are taken periodically by the Public Health Inspectors.

The number of samples so dealt with during the year 1964 was:-

(a) Bacteriological:

Raw Water	17
Treated water going into supply	29

(b) Chemical:

Raw Water	5
Treated water going into supply	5

Reports on the above samples of treated water were satisfactory. The raw water was also of adequate purity.

The soft upland surface water, some 3,000,000 gallons a day, is treated at the Works with lime or chalk raising the pH figure to 7.5 and then filtered and finally chlorinated and there is no action on lead. Additional supplies are obtained from the Taf Fechan Water Board, approximately 800,000 gallons, and 220,000 from springs each day.

The number of houses supplied direct from the main in Pontypridd is 10,598.

There are no stand-pipes in use within the Pontypridd area.

Miscellaneous samples were taken from mountain springs and streams; some were reported to be unsatisfactory in varying degrees and appropriate action was taken.

Samples of Trading Estate water are taken regularly from premises on the Estate which lie within the Urban Area.

The following statistics of the local rainfall for the year 1964 have been provided by the Joint Water Board. The rainfall was registered at Lanwood Reservoir, Pontypridd.

Month	Inches
January	1.11
February	2.55
March	4.16
April	3.95
May	2.92
June	3.59
July	5.13
August	3.15
September	1.94
October	4.62
November	5.97
December	11.23
	50.32

The average rainfall recorded at the above station for the past 48 years is 61.08.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A complete water-carriage system of sewerage, seventeen miles in length, controlled by the Ystradyfodwg and Pontypridd Main Sewerage Board, extends from the Rhondda area to the sea.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of inspections and revisits in the course of routine work and "on complaint" during the year ended 31st December, 1964:

Public Health Acts:	
First Visits	1,304
Revisits	2,446
Bakehouses	19
Factories	14
Public Abattoir	804
Market and Shops	370
Cafes	81
Caravans	6
Schools	7
Miscellaneous	643
Rodent Control	10
Infectious Diseases	1
	5,705

Sampling:

Milk	97
Water	34
Other foods	113
Drugs	23

Notices Served:

Informal	118
Formal	57

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

In the course of the year 3 prosecutions were instituted by the Public Health Inspectors as a result of non-compliance with the requirements of statutory notices served under the Act.

In all cases work had been completed at the date of the hearings and the cases were withdrawn on payment of costs.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The Public Health Inspectors paid 14 visits to factories during the year.

Generally all the factories were found to be in a satisfactory condition and in no instance was it necessary to take legal action for the contravention of any of the provisions of the above Act.

The annual statement is attached as an appendix to this report.

CREMATORIUM

The following particulars have been supplied by the Clerk of the Board:-

Cremations for the year 1963 1,934
Cremations for the year 1964 1,910

The cremations in 1964 shew a decrease of 24 compared with 1963.

It is interesting to note that by the end of 1964, cremations carried out in Pontypridd totalled 36,577.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The above Act, which came into operation on 29th August, 1960 confers on local authorities effective powers for controlling caravan sites by strengthening the powers of planning authorities and introducing a new licensing system.

One site only is established in this area.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses established in the Urban Area.

SCAVENGING

The collection of refuse and waste material during 1963 amounted to approximately 14,000 tons, an average of 55 tons per working day. Disposal is effected by controlled tipping on a site at Llandraw - an angledozer being used to spread the refuse and cover it down with inert material each day.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is engaged full time to deal with day-to-day complaints and routine duties of rodent infestation.

The following tables give a summary of action during 1964:

Number of premises treated

Rats		Mice
110	Business Premises	1
492	Others	32
602		33

The Department also deals with business premises on contract.

The sewers in the area were treated in July, 1964. The bait and poison was sausage rusk and zinc phosphide with para-nitro-phenol.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

The methods employed in this locality for dealing with verminous premises have been outlined in previous reports. The number of premises dealt with during the year under review was as follows :

Council	25
Other dwelling houses	14
Other premises	8
	47

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following offensive trade is established in the district:

Rag Storage and Sorting 3

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOL

Pontypridd possesses a municipal open-air swimming bath and paddling pool situated in the Ynysangharad Park. The adult bath holds 460,000 gallons and the juvenile pool 180,000 gallons.

Water is supplied from the town mains, and is treated by a large capacity filtration and purification plant by chemical precipitation, filtration, aeration and finally chlorination by a break-point chlorination plant with a chlorine residual recorder. The juvenile pool is connected to the filtration plant of the adult swimming bath. The turnover period for both pools is eight hours.

12 samples of bath water were taken on 6 occasions for bacteriological examination and all were reported to be satisfactory.

The standard of water purity to be aimed at in a swimming bath is equivalent to that for drinking water. It will be appreciated that such a standard is a very high one particularly during periods when very large numbers of people make use of the baths. It is particularly gratifying, therefore, to find that in every case, the samples taken were reported to be satisfactory. However, overcrowding must be avoided and there must be supervision in particularly of the very young toddlers using the paddling pool.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

The Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by local authorities of any establishments at which a business of providing accommodation for cats and dogs is carried on, and in considering the granting of a licence, the authority must have regard to the adequacy of arrangements for the care of the animals including protection against fire and other emergencies, and the prevention and control of infectious and contagious diseases.

Under Section 2, a local authority may authorise any of its officers to inspect any premises in respect of which a licence has been granted and this authority was given to the Medical Officer of Health and the three Public Health Inspectors.

No applications under this Act have in fact been received.

The following extract is taken from the Annual Report of the Pontypridd Branch of the N.S.P.C.C. which also covers Aberdare and Llantrisant areas.

"One of the most common misconceptions held about the N.S.P.C.C. is that most of its time and energy is spent in taking people to Court and sending their children into Homes. This is so far from the truth as to be ludicrous. Only about two per cent of the Society's cases ever reach the Courts and this step is never taken anyway if there is the slightest chance of putting a child's home environment right and ensuring that it receives the proper care and attention of its parents. Nobody realises the gravity of removing children from their parents more than the Society, and it is always with the seriousness of this action very much in mind that the decision to do so is reached. Even in the very small proportion of cases which are taken to Court many people lose sight of the fact that it rests entirely with the Magistrates to reach an impartial decision as to whether we are right or not in bringing cases before them, and in the main they support the Society's action in passing judgment. Only 618 of the 41,415 cases reported to the Society throughout the country were dealt with in the Magistrates' or Juvenile Courts last year and in the Pontypridd Branch only three cases had to be dealt with in this way.

The Society is very pleased that the vast majority of its cases are concluded by warning or advising the parents, and this is borne out by the following casework figures for the Pontypridd Branch:

Warned	96
Advised	45
Brought before Juvenile Court	3

Why it was necessary for our Inspector to go to the help of 353 local children is shewn by the following classification of cases:

Neglect	62
Assault or ill-treatment	31
Beyond Control	5
Moral Danger	1
Aid or Advice Sought	45

Seldom are cases of ill-used children seen, and so it is that the Society has to rely mainly on neighbours, the Police, School Officials and others who are likely to come into close contact with cases to report them to its Inspectors. These friends have been of the greatest help here in the Pontypridd Branch by reporting cases as listed below and we thank them sincerely:

General Public	89
Police	14
School Officials	4
Other Officials	35

Two cases were discovered by the Society's Inspector.

The visits made by the Inspector to ensure the future well-being of the children involved in his cases were 1,132; he also helped colleagues from other Branches by making two enquiries to help them with their cases."

Mr.Rees expresses his appreciation of the help given him by my Department and I acknowledge his assistance on many occasions.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

The Medical Officer of Health's report for 1914 contained an estimated population of 47,490 with a high birth rate of 30.8 compared with 23.8 for England and Wales. The rising population and high birth rate were sure signs of the dynamic growth of the town.

The Notification of Births Act (1907) was adopted and became operative during the year. The importance of notification (a keystone of Public Health activity in this country) is that it enables an early check to be made on the care the young infant is receiving. An Infant Visitor (the fore-runner of today's Health Visitor) was appointed, but alas to spend only a quarter of her time on this work. This was regarded as inadequate (the number of births during the year was 1,464) but "the urgent need for nurses for military purposes" was given as the reason for not recruiting more staff.

The Deputy Chief Constable reported on Food and Drug sampling, and of seventy samples of milk, no less than five were found to be adulterated and proceedings taken.

Attention is drawn in the report to the danger to health caused by crude sewage from the Rhondda area entering the River Rhondda due to a defective main sewer. This state of affairs continued through the year 1914, and the Local Government Board refused to sanction a loan to the Rhondda Authority for the very necessary construction of a new length of sewer.

APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1964

FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PONTYPRIDD IN THE COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961
Part 1 of the Act

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	58	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	171	14	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	231	14	1	-

Factories Act, 1961 (Cont'd)

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	1	-

Factories Act, 1961 (Cont'd)

Part VIII of the Act (Sections 133 and 134)

OUTWORK.

Nature of Work (1)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)(2) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Making, etc. of wearing apparel	7	-	-	-	-	-

Signature: D. W. Foster

Medical Officer of Health

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